"Everyone has the right to an education"

The Global Teacher

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Global Campaign for Education — Every Child Needs a Teacher

Did you know?

2003
2 million people in 70 countries took part in the Biggest Lesson *"Girls' Education"*, which hit the Guinness Book of Records.

2004
2.5 million took part in the World's Biggest Lobby, *"Missing an Education"*.

2005
5 million demanded that world leaders *"Educate to End Poverty"* through *"Send my Friend to School"* activities.

The Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) and Oxfam Canada invite teachers in every province and territory to help maintain the momentum of the **Global Campaign for Education (GCE)** by participating in **Global Action Week, April 24-30, 2006.**

This year's theme is 'Every Child Needs a Teacher'. Without quality teachers there will be no "Education for All". UNESCO estimates that a minimum of 15 million additional teachers will be needed to achieve Universal Primary Education.

www.campaignforeducation.org

"Send my Friends a Teacher"

During Global Action Week, Canadian children are linked with a worldwide movement of learning and activities which allow them to share and exchange information and experiences. Through a series of **literacy and problem-solving social studies activities**, primary school children learn about important educational and rights-based issues linked to our provincial curriculum goals.

Classrooms can participate in **active citizenship** by hosting a visit with their local Member of Parliament or through a letter writing campaign. Students can also join a country-wide activity to create the **world's longest poster**, to be presented to the Minister for International Cooperation.

Your Participation Counts

The Canadian Global Campaign for Education (CGCE)* and CTF are hoping to engage 1,000 schools across Canada. For more information, visit **www.campaignforeducationcanada.org** or contact **sendateacher@gmail.com**

CANADIAN GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR EDUCATION

*The CGCE is a member of the worldwide network of civil society organizations, NGOs and teacher unions that support the right to quality education for every child.

"Send my Friend to School"

"The voices of Canadian children were heard as the 2005 'Send my Friend to School' cut-outs carried messages to our politicians. They traveled the world and helped leaders make new commitments to education. Let's maintain the momentum."

Winston Carter, President, Canadian Teachers' Federation

CTF lesson plans and materials launched in 2005 still apply. They are designed to introduce primary and secondary students to the reasons why over 100 million children are out of school, to raise student awareness of education and development and to understand the link between poverty and education. The secondary level also increases understanding of the Millennium Development Goals and prompts further inquiry.

For Lesson Plans, Kits and Information, visit the Global Action Week Section of the CTF Web site: www.ctf-fce.ca

Millennium Development Goals — 6 Years On

"The adoption of the Millennium Development Goals, drawn from the United Nations Millennium Declaration, was a seminal event in the history of the United Nations. It constituted an unprecedented promise by world leaders to address, as a single package, peace, security, development, human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Kofi Annan, 2005, UN Secretary-General

On September 8, 2000, world leaders from 189 countries concluded a historic Millennium summit at the UN. At issue were the more than one billion people who survive on $1 a day or less. These leaders agreed to 8 goals ranging from halving extreme poverty and hunger to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015.

We are now 6 years closer to the target date. This graph highlights the current status of global school attendance and AIDS in Africa.

Goal	Global Challenge	Regional Challenges
*Goal # 2—**Universal Access to Primary Basic Education:** Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling.*	There are over 100 million children with no access to school.	❑ 15% of all children in the world are out of school. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 73% of kids are not in school. ❑ In Latin America, 2 out of every 5 children living in rural areas do not finish primary school. ❑ 9 million more girls than boys are left out of school every year.
*Goal # 6—**Combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases:** To halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.*	There are over 43 million people worldwide living with HIV/AIDS.	❑ 2.4 million adults and children in Africa died from AIDS in the past year. ❑ There are 26 million adults and children in Africa living with HIV/AIDS in 2005. ❑ There are an additional 3.1 million adults and children in Africa that were newly infected with HIV during 2005.

Of course these two goals are very much linked. Consider in Zambia, more than 40% of teachers are HIV-positive. In Namibia, it is one in seven. Young people with little or no education are 2.2 times more likely to contract HIV/AIDS. Universal primary education, it is estimated, could save as many as 700,000 young people from HIV infection annually, or 7 million over a decade. Teachers are on the front line of this challenge.

Will we achieve the Millennium Goals? At current rates of progress, some 86 countries are not expected to reach the target of giving all children a complete primary education by 2015. Similarly, Stephen Lewis, UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, emphasized, "The pace of action is too slow and it is the poor who are paying the price."

If we are to succeed in meeting the Millennium Development Goals, then world leaders are going to have to redouble their efforts. And we will have to continue to push for more and better quality aid, debt cancellation and fairer trade rules. Then we will Make Poverty History.

To learn more about the UN Millennium Development Goals, visit www.un.org/millenniumgoals

To learn more about Stephen Lewis' work on HIV/AIDS, visit www.stephenlewisfoundation.org

CTF is a new Host Organization and Secretariat for the *Green Street* program, which endeavours to provide opportunities to actively engage students and teachers in environmental learning and sustainability education. Look for more information from CTF about *Green Street* in the coming months.
www.green-street.ca **www.ctf-fce.ca**

CTF would like to acknowledge the financial support of CIDA for Global Action Week activities, including the CGCE "Send my Friends a Teacher" materials.

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

"Every 3 seconds a child dies from poverty. This is preventable."

2005 witnessed the Global Call to Action against Poverty, a worldwide alliance committed to making world leaders live up to their promises, and to making a breakthrough on poverty. The Canadian groups, including the CTF and Oxfam, joined under the banner of Make Poverty History.

Thanks to a huge global effort, we were successful in persuading the G8 leaders to double their aid to Africa over the next 5 years, increasing it to $50 billion. Also, 100% of the debt of 18 of the world's poorest countries was cancelled. On the issue of fairer trade, we were not successful (visit **www.maketradefair.com**).

An outstanding issue for the Canadian groups is Canada's long-standing promise to provide 0.7% of GNI in foreign aid. Last year, all parties in Parliament unanimously voted for Canada's aid to reach 0.5% by 2010 and 0.7% by 2015. Over the coming months, Make Poverty History will be pushing PM Harper to honour this commitment.

For more information, please visit www.makepovertyhistory.ca and www.oxfam.ca

Toronto to host World AIDS Forum

The XVI International AIDS Conference will be held in Toronto, 13-18 August 2006. The theme of the Conference is appropriately "Time to deliver" and will focus on the promises and progress made to scale up treatment, care and prevention.

AIDS 2006
TORONTO LOCAL HOST

For Peter Piot of UNAIDS, the conference must address the needs of children affected by HIV/AIDS. "25 years into the epidemic, considerable progress has been made in mobilizing the world against AIDS. But when it comes to accessing the treatment services, children and young people continue to be left behind."

It is estimated that 4 million children living with HIV/AIDS do not have access to treatment. The experts agree that access to education, proper nutrition and adequate health care are all key in addressing the vulnerability of children.

To learn more about the Toronto AIDS conference, visit www.aids2006.org

Child Labour — A violation of human rights

Education remains a distant dream for millions of children. Extreme poverty has forced many children to become workers. According to UNICEF, an estimated 246 million children are engaged in child labour. Of those, almost three-quarters (171 million) work in hazardous situations or conditions, such as working in mines, working with chemicals and pesticides in agriculture or working with dangerous machinery.

UNICEF and the International Labour Organization (ILO-UN) distinguish between work and child labour. Work that does not interfere with education (light work) is permitted from the age of 12 years under the ILO-UN Convention 138. Child labour occurs when the health and development of the child is impeded or where her/his education is affected or interfered with.

For girls the situation is especially bleak. Millions work as domestic servants and unpaid household help. These children are especially vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Millions more are trafficked (1.2 million), forced into debt bondage or other forms of slavery (5.7 million), into prostitution and pornography (1.8 million), into participating in armed conflict (0.3 million) or other illicit activities (0.6 million).

unicef

Moreover, the opportunities for future employment are not great. A recent report from the International Labour Organization (ILO-UN) found that there are over 88 million unemployed youth around the world. Young people in developing regions, said the report, are over 4 times more likely to find themselves unemployed when compared with older workers.

Youth face major hurdles when looking for work. A major reason being they lack an education or skills-specific training. The challenge remains; we must ensure that all children, girls and boys, are afforded their right to a quality and free education.

controlarms.org

True or False?

1. **There are approximately 650 million small arms in the world.**

2. **Every hour a person dies as a result of armed violence.**

3. **There are 300,000 child soldiers involved in armed conflicts.**

Number 1 is true, that is the equivalent of 1 weapon for every 10 people. Number 2 is false and instead should read every minute a person dies as a result of armed violence. Number 3 is true. Some child soldiers are as young as nine years old. **Two main factors for the involvement of child combatants are poverty and a lack of access to educational or work opportunities**.

Another sad truth is that in the same minute in which one person dies from armed violence, 15 new arms are manufactured, that is equivalent to 8 million new weapons per year.

What we have is an arms trade that is out of control. The arms trade is a very lucrative business. **US$22 billion is spent annually on arms transfers. Half of this amount would enable every girl and boy to attend primary school**. One third of all countries spend more on the military than they spend on health-care services.

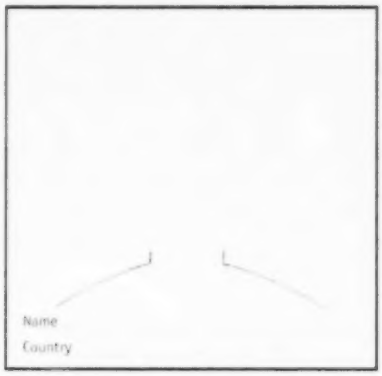
In June of 2006, the United Nations will host a special conference to review the Arms Trade Treaty. This conference presents a tremendous opportunity to place controls on the sale of arms.

Who needs to change? According to Dennis McNamara, special UN adviser on internal displacement, the answer is indisputable — the major world powers, "The kids on the streets of Nairobi, Khartoum, Abidjan and Monrovia have guns in their pockets or up their sleeves ... We provided the arms — we the west, we the G8."

88 per cent of the world's conventional arms exports are made by the 5 permanent members of the UN Security Council — France, Russia, China, the UK and the USA. In the last four years, the USA, UK and France earned more income from arms exports to Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America than they provided in aid.

Face up to the Arms Crisis

Oxfam, Amnesty and Ploughshares Project are part of an international campaign, ***Control Arms***, which is demanding a strengthened Arms Trade Treaty that will prevent the proliferation and misuse of arms. **We are collecting one million photos and self-portraits of supporters from around the world. Our goal is to create the largest ever visual petition ever. It is easy to add your face, a digital photo or a drawing will do.**



Be one in a million.
Help us demand controls on the arms trade.
Add Your Face to the Million Faces Petition.

Governments must introduce tighter controls and monitor their arms and security exports more effectively, making information on arms transfers available to the public.

As it did in the campaign to ban landmines, Canada can play a leading role at the upcoming UN review conference. Thanks to Canada's leadership, world leaders recognized the indiscriminate savagery of landmines and took action. Small arms demand equal, if not more, attention. Compared with landmines, small arms cause an estimated 10 times as many direct victims and many more indirect deaths.

The ***Control Arms*** **campaign is asking governments to toughen up controls on arms exports. We are demanding that strict criteria on arms transfers based on existing human rights and international humanitarian law be established. Over 730,000 people have added their face to the *Control Arms* campaign.** These faces will be used to send a powerful, global message of support to the world's governments for an International Arms Trade Treaty. To learn more and to be one in a million, visit

www.controlarms.org

To view an excellent school resource for "A World Without Weapons", visit www.unac.org/learn/wwwp